



The Scoop

The news that matters from the
Smith Street Unit

www.smithst-s.schools.nsw.edu.au

Volume 2 Issue 11 December 2015



From the desk of Dale-Myree

I am delighted to introduce Ben Hightower. Ben is a remarkable young man who brings a wealth of experience to the Smith Street Unit. The staff and students are looking forward to having him back on the team next year as an integral component of the specialist program we offer.



One of my early teaching experiences was at the Smith's Street Unit in 2005. The school has changed a great deal since that time. I have continued to teach at SSU from time to time but have also had the pleasure of teaching at many schools within the Illawarra.

I have a passion for quality teaching and helping students achieve their goals both in and out of the classroom. I especially enjoy the experience and rewards of Special Education. In 2013 I completed my PhD at the University of Wollongong where I continue to teach subjects in the Faculty of Law, Humanities and Arts. Next year, I look forward to working with staff and students on a full-time basis.

Ben Hightower



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<i>First day of term for teachers</i>	Wednesday 27 January 2016	<i>Looking forward to another great year</i>
<i>First day of term for new students</i>	Thursday 28 January 2016	<i>Welcome to the Smith Street Unit!</i>
<i>First day of term for returning students</i>	Friday 29 January 2016	<i>Welcome back!</i>

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By James Garbutt

On Tuesday the 3rd of November, Jeniveve Podmore from Mission Australia accompanied 4 of our students to the Art Gallery of Wollongong to participate in a hands-on session to experience the Arts. The students were guided by a volunteer and were happy to examine, appreciate and evaluate the artwork on show. They got to create their own masterpiece as well. The staff at the unit wish to thank Jeniveve for giving our students the opportunity to learn about and appreciate the Arts.

The tour guide commented on the attitude and behaviour of the students.

Well done!!! They make the unit and themselves proud!!!

Ben started an Art project with our students to beautify the fence.

It looks amazing!



The students with a great deal of help from staff, finally managed to complete the mechanical animals' project. It did prove to be a challenging project, even for staff, however the end result is great.



News from the staff room

Welcome to SSU

We welcome Ben to our staff team. Ben is working full time until the end of the year.

Congratulations!!!

The unit's staff wish to congratulate Dale-Myree for becoming a member of the Australian College of Educators.

Well done!!!



Presentation Day Highlights

On Wednesday 9th of December, the Smith Street Unit hosted its first Annual Assembly. The students, parents, teachers, Services' representatives, and special guests celebrated the achievement of the students and enjoyed a light morning tea. We are proud of all the students!



**Our MC Jack Mitchell
looking very smart!!!**



**Welcome to Country
By
Cyndy
Starr**

We welcome the parents, students, services' representatives, and special guests!!!



*Emeka Benson closed
the ceremony.*

THANK YOU!



Thank you Dale-Myree for a great year. We have enjoyed the challenges and celebrated each success small and big. As the saying goes "One hand cannot clap". I would like to thank the SSU team, Sue, Cyndy, Danna, Loretta, Petrina, Ziik, Rennay, Daniel and Kieran. I would not be able to cope with the demands and responsibilities of my role without your support.

Thanks to Merryl Bennett, the Transition Support Teacher for her continual support. Merryl is a great mentor and I am lucky to have the privilege to work with her and learn from her.

By Chahla

By Chahla



Thanks to Jeniveve Podmore from Mission Australia. Jeniveve worked with some of our students to assist in their transition to other settings or to employment.



Wendy is the Out of Home Care teacher and has been a wonderful support for our students who for many reasons live in many different home situations such as foster care, small group homes or individual settings supported by care workers.

Thanks to Jennifer Grant from the Juvenile Justice Department for always being positive and cheerful. Jennifer's role is to liaise between the unit and many agencies to ensure our students access the services available.



Thanks to Jeanine Dunkley, Head teacher Karabar. Jeanine is always willing to offer support and advice in all matters relating to the students, teaching and learning.



Thanks to Bryce O'Connor, Deputy of Wollongong High for supporting our Unit.



John Frew the Principal of Holsworthy High School spoke about toxic shame and his early days as the foundation teacher of the Smith Street Unit; the staff, parents and students enjoyed your insights. Thank you for sharing this day with us.

Thanks to Robyn, the Head teacher at Flametree. Robyn endeavours to include the Smith Street Unit staff in most of the social and professional functions and activities that she plans for her unit.



Thanks to Lew Edgar, the DEC Home Liaison Officer, for supporting some of our students to re-engage with school.

AWARDS



Chairperson

Jack Mitchell



Graduation to Post
School program

Zebastian Cullen



Class Achievement Award
Year 10

James Garbutt

Chairperson: Jack Mitchell (Year 10)

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Acknowledgement of Country: Cyndy Starr

Welcome and Thankyou's
Dale-Myree Dal Santo and Chahla Maksour

Opening Address :
John Frew-Principal Holsworthy High School

Introduction of graduating year 10 students:
Chahla Maksour-VET Coordinator

Graduation to Post School Program :
Presented by Wendy Stothard

2015 Class Achievement awards:
Presented by Chahla Maksour, Danna Sheedy, Cyndy Starr & Loretta Smith

Sportsperson of the Year

Dryden Jack



Class Achievement Award
Year 7

Emeka Benson



Class Achievement Award
Year 8

Jackson Brightling



Class Achievement Award
Year 9

David Hermann

AWARDS



Academic Achievement
Gold Award

Bailey Murray



All Rounder Award

James Garbutt



Excellent School
Attendance Award

Dryden Jack



Quiet Achiever Award

David Hermann

2015 Student Gold, Silver, Bronze and Academic Achievement

Presented by Jeanine Dunkley

2015 SLSO's 'All-Rounder' Award :

Presented by Petrina Tairua and Ziik Savu

Awards for Excellent School Attendance:

Presented by Loretta Smith & Bryce O'Connor
(Relieving Principal WHSPA)

Flametree & Smith Street Unit Partnership
award for the 'Quiet Achiever': Presented by Dale-
Myree Dal Santo & Robyn Christofides (Head Teacher
Flametree)

2015 Sportsperson of the Year Award:
Presented by Danna Sheedy (Sports Coordinator)

2015 Smith Street Unit 'Student of the Year'
Award: Presented by Dale-Myree Dal Santo & Mr
Bryce O'Connor

Vote of thanks : Emeka Benson

2015 Student of the Year

David Hermann



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Karabar Distance Education
Academic Achievement Award

James Garbutt



Karabar Distance Education
Academic Achievement Award

Dryden Jack



Karabar Distance Education
Academic Achievement Award

Jackson Brightling

CONGRATULATIONS!



Congratulations to the students who achieved Bronze level in 2015



David Hermann

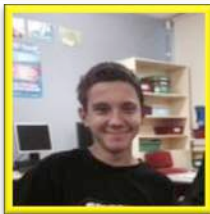


Sebastian Cullen



James Garbutt

Shane Powter



Mehrten Puruto

Junior Puruto

Congratulations to the
graduating Year 10 students
for 2015

Dryden Jack
Dylan Hart
Jack Mitchell
James Garbutt
Jaemee Clarke
Mehrten Puruto



Congratulations to the students who achieved Silver level in 2015



Jackson Brightling



Joshua Thompson



Dryden Jack

The Smith Street unit is a service of the New South Wales Department of Education providing specialised support in a unique environment. Students are provided with individualised learning programs to meet the educational needs.

The unit has served the students of the Illawarra for over a quarter of a century with the key mission providing a nurturing environment where students can grow into mature young men and women. It is always exciting to see graduates come back to share their success stories.

The Smith Street Unit

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SUMMER SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

Thursday 14th January

Stand-Up Paddle Boarding

1pm - 4pm

Come and enjoy a fun lesson and lunch
down at Wollongong



**KEEP
CALM
SCHOOL'S OUT
FOR
SUMMER**

Thursday 21st January

Jamberoo Action Park

12 - 5pm

Waterslides and wave pool, keep cool
this summer!



Spots are limited!

Available for 12 - 24yrs

Transport and Food Included

**To secure your spot phone
CHAIN on 4226 5816**



FIND US ON FACEBOOK - 'LIKE'
SOUTHERN YOUTH & FAMILY
SERVICES TO KEEP UP TO DATE



Summer at SYFS

Youth Health Services

Young people 12 - 24 years

**All activities are Free,
Limited Spaces**

Transport / Food provided

Date	Time	Activity
Wed 2nd December	12 - 3.30pm	The Hunger Games—Mockingjay 2
Wed 16th December	1 - 4pm	Surfing
Wed 6th January	1 - 6pm	Jamberoo Action Park
Wed 3rd February	2 - 5pm	Beach BBQ and Games
Wed 17th February	11 - 3pm	MasterChef Challenge



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SERVICES TO KEEP UP TO DATE

Call CHAIN to book in - 4226 5816

